



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0052/050001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masamitsu NAKAMINAMI et al.  
Application No.: 09/849,437  
Filed : May 7, 2001  
Title : MACHINE TOOL

Art Unit: 3712  
Examiner: Miller, B.

#12/B  
6/2/03  
Bloss

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
MAY 30 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In connection with the Transmittal Letter and Petition for Extension of Time and Notification of Filing of Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and RCE Transmittal, both concurrently submitted herewith and in response to the Office Action dated January 27, 2003, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute claims 1, 7, 11 and 12 for the pending claims with the same numbers respectively:

131 -- 1. (Twice Amended) A machine tool comprising:  
a fixed bed;